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THE RAGTIMER

THE BASH ISSUE

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER

1983

PUBLISHED BY

THE RAGTIME SOCIETY

DEDICATED TO THE PRESERVATION OF CLASSICAL RAGTIME

COMMERCIALLY PUBLISHED FOLIOS

Price includes postage and handling

CF-806 MAX MORATH'S GIANTS OF RAGTIME (MARKS)
Contains rags by Scott Joplin, Eubie Blake, Luckey Roberts, Jim Europe and Tom Turpin. Includes Chevy Chase, Fizz Water, Tricky Fingers, Troublesome Ivories, Dictys On 7th Avenue $4.00

CF-807 THE BEST OF RAGTIME FAVORITES (HANSEN)
Contains 33 piano solo rags by Chauvin, Hampton, Hayden, Held, Joplin, Krell, Lamb, Pratt and Scott. The folio also contains a "How to Play Ragtime Piano" section $4.00

CF-812 CLASSIC PIANO RAGS (DOVER)
Contains 81 Rags, selected by Rudi Blesh, and reproduced from original sheet music including cover. Paperbound, 384 pages 9 by 12 -- 15 composers represented -- Joplin, Scott, Lamb, Turpin, Hunter, Johnson, Hampton, Woods, etc.....$12.00

CF-813 THE BEST OF JOPLIN (CHAPPELL)
This new edition contains seventeen compositions of Scott Joplin. Faithful colour restorations, of the original cover designs..$5.50

CF-814 THE COLLECTED WORKS OF SCOTT JOPLIN for Solo Piano (LEEDS)
This is a paperback copy of the clothbound New York Public Library edition prepared by Vera Brodsky Lawrence. Contains 51 works, 352 pages, Size 9 x 12.

CF-815 SINCERELY - EUBIE BLAKE (EUBIE BLAKE MUSIC)
Folio of 9 original compositions for piano: The Charleston Rag, Eubie's Classical Rag, Rhapsody in Ragtime, Poor Jimmy Green, Eubie Dubie, Brittwood Rag, Poor Katie Redd, Kitchen Tom, The Baltimore Todolo (Includes text by Terry Waldo and photo).....$5.50

PRIVATELY PRINTED SHEET MUSIC

These are available at $1.50 each postpaid

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PM-702 Pussy Cat Rag (David R. Lee) 1975
PM-703 Tough Bananas Rag (David R. Lee) 1975
PM-704 Pumpkin Pie Rag (David R. Lee) 1975
PM-705 Salad Dressing Rag (David R. Lee) 1975
PM-706 Mississauga Rag (Ausin E. Kitchen) 1974
PM-707 Once Upon A Time (Austin E. Kitchen) 1977

Please Note: Minimum order $3.00

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RAGTIME...
UNDER YOUR HAT

FOUNDED 1962
INCORPORATED 1970

THE RAGTIME SOCIETY
INCORPORATED

is a non-profit corporation having the following objects;

To preserve classical ragtime music and to pursue such other activities as shall serve to maintain and develop interest in classical ragtime music and music related thereto.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

1983

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The 1983 Bash is now history -- and we look forward to some exciting things in 1984.

. Max Morath will be performing in Toronto's Roy Thomson Hall on Sunday, April 8, 1984. Not only are we looking forward to his first Toronto visit in years but we also hope to arrange a reception where ragtimers can meet Max.

. The mini-bashes organized in 1983 by Betty Miquelon were such successes that we have plans to continue them in 1984. Watch the Ragtimer for details.

. We have already booked space at Toronto's Cara Inn for the 1984 Bash. The dates: October 19-20-21, 1984.

Finally, please remember that memberships are the lifeblood of an organization like ours.When you are sending in your 1984 membership, why not mention the Society to a friend who might be interested in joining?

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The 1983 Ragtime Bash

Steve Hull

THE NIGHT WHEN A REAL GHOST WALKED IN!

BY JACK HUTTON

Most of us can sit down to play ragtime with the comforting thought that the composer -- Joplin, Scott, Lamb, Turpin -- isn't likely to be in the audience criticizing our version of his compositions. One hour before ragtimer Steve Hull was to play William Bolcolm's "Graceful Ghost" at this year's Bash, who should walk in but the composer, Bill Bolcolm, and his wife, Joan Morris! Steve played, therefore, with the unsettling knowledge that every note he played was being heard four tables away by an expressionless Bolcolm who sat silently smoking a cigar. When Steve, a Kitchener ragtimer pursuing a master's degree in computer technology this winter, was through, Bill Bolcolm jumped to his feet to lead the enthusiastic applause.

Every Ragtime Bash has had its share of fun moments and surprises, and the Oct. 14-16 '83 Bash at Toronto's Cara Inn was no exception this year. Whether it was Rosemary Renaud charming the audience with "Alabama Rag", Charlie Davis demonstrating why he's called a piano "tickler", or Sid Martin injecting George Formby into the proceedings with his banjo ukelele, the weekend fulfilled all the promise that Society members have come to expect from the unique ragtime celebration. We even attracted first-timers from opposite ends of the continent -- Dan Grinstead from Seattle, Washington, and Glenn Jenks from Maine!

It was particularly heartwarming to see David Jasen back at the Bash after a one-year absence because of illness. The presence of the internationally respected ragtime historian and interpreter reminded us just how much we all missed him last year.

Here for the record was the 1983 Ragtime Bash formal program.

THE FORMAL PROGRAM

Master of Ceremonies: JOHN ARPIN

Note: All performances are solo piano unless otherwise designated.

BOB KIVIAHO	Original Rags
GERRY VONDY	Keystone Rag
DON SCOTT	Black and White Rag
SANDRA THWAITES	Solace
CHARLIE DUNN	Sweet Georgia Brown
CHARLES PETOT	Pastime Rag No. 4
CONNIE & CAROL WESTLAKE (banjos)	Bird-Brain Rag, Dill Pickles Rag
GARY TENHUNEN	Fantasy Rag (own composition)
JEAN & PAUL HULING	Rosebud Rag (Tom Shea),
SISTER JEAN, THE RAGTIME QUEEN & LAUNDRY FAT (piano/washboard)	Roberto Clemente, Pickaninny Rag
IRV KOVEN	Ain't Misbehavin'
TIMOTHY SANDOR	Humorestless (Zez Confrey)
ROSEMARY RENAUD	Alabama Rag
WAYNE ADAMS (Banjo)	Potential Rag
RICHARD BERRY	Heliotrope Bouquet, Elite Syncopations
REIDE KAISER	Alaskan Rag, Alligator Crawl
CHARLES CASTNER	In The Dark (Beiderbecke)
with LOUISE CASTNER	Shout For Joy
JACK CUFF	Chicago Breakdown
FRANK WITTMANN	Keepin' Out Of Mischief Now, Dinah, Making Waves (original composition)

-short intermission-

Musical POT-POURRI in the PEEL ROOM: various performers and musical selections.

Dinner music by the RAINBOW GARDENS JAZZ ORCHESTRA

Personnel: KEITH HONEYWELL (trombone); JACK HUTTON (piano); AL BIRD (cornet); PAUL PACANOWSKI (baritone sax); JOHN SANNEN (clarinet); WILLIE WILSON (banjo/guitar); RIC GIORGI, leader (bass). Arrangements by MARTIN LOOMER.

DAN GRINSTEAD	Cakewalk, Pickles & Peppers
STEVE HULL	Graceful Ghost (Bolcom), Fig Leaf Rag
BESS FELL	Bird-Brain Rag, Kitten on the Keys
AL ALLOTTA & PAT MacCARROL (banjo & piano)	El Cumbanchero, Lady of Spain, Am I Blue, Sweet Sue
CHARLES DAVIS	Raggedy Ann, Morning Air
WILLIAM BOLCOM	Knight Hubert (Bolcom), Deja Valse
with JOAN MORRIS (vocal)	Memories of You, Hit The Road You Bumblebee, Lime Jello Marshmallow Cottage Cheese Surprise (Bolcom)
SI RICHARDS	Ain't Misbehavin', Lullaby of the Leaves, Let's Fall In Love
with John Arpin	Nevertheless, Guilty
CHARLIE BOOTY	Dill Pickle Drag (Chas. L. Johnson), Rainbow
with BEN CONROY	Cara Inn Boogie

BEN CONROY	How Long Blues (Yancey), Albert & Pinetop Themes
SID MARTIN (banjo/uke)	Auntie Maggie's Remedy, I'm Going Back Where I Come From, Bye Bye Blues

Presentation to AMELIA LAMB by MARK WITTMANN

JACK HUTTON	American Ragtime Dance (Jasen), Home Stretch Rag (original composition)
DAVE JASEN	Jumping Jack Rag, Black Devil Rag
GLORIA EKROM (piano & vocal)	It's A Mean Old Dog, When Paderewski Plays, G.O.P.
GLENN JENKS	Cataract Rag, Waltz of the Northern Lights (original composition), Ragtime Oriole
AUSTIN KITCHEN with JACK HUTTON	Ain't Misbehavin', Five Foot Two
CATHERINE WILSON with SONJA VIZANTE (violin) JANET KUSCHAK (cello)	Blue Thoughts (Eubie Blake) Ragtime Nightingale, Bethena - A Concert & Waltz, Easy Winners Rag
DAVE FLOWITT	Waltz In Ragtime, Pep (Morton)
JOHN ARPIN	Yellow Dog Blues, Johnny Green medley: Body & Soul; I Cover The Waterfront; Coquette; Out of Nowhere

END OF FORMAL PROGRAM

TOP LEFT: FRANK WITTMANN

LEFT: SONJA VIZANTE (violin)
JANET KUSCHAK (cello)
CATHERINE WILSON (piano)

ABOVE: SID MARTIN (banjo-uke)

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BILL BOLCOM
AND JOAN MORRIS

DAVID JASEN

ABOVE: CONNIE & CAROL WESTLAKE
(BANJOS)

MIDDLE RIGHT: CHARLES CASTNER TURNS
THE PAGES FOR CHARLES DAVIS

RIGHT: BESS FELL

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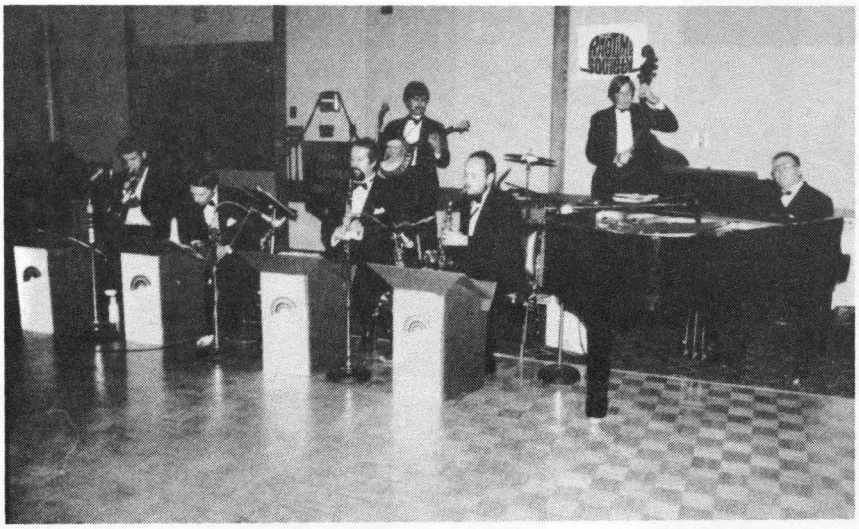
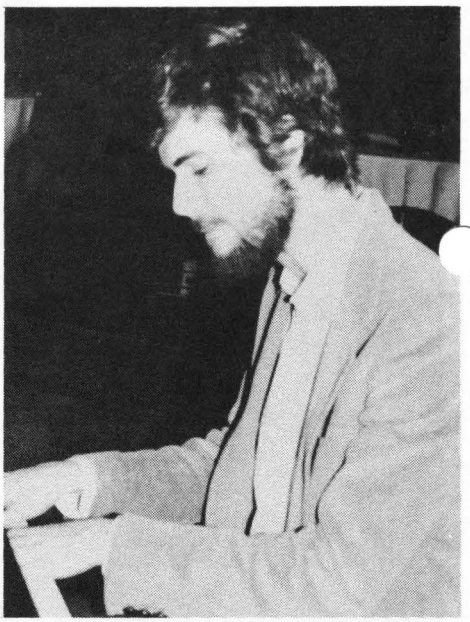
GERRY VONDY

SANDRA THWAITES

LOUISE CASTNER





MIDDLE LEFT: RAINBOW GARDENS JAZZ ORCHESTRA - KEITH HONEYWELL, TROMBONE; AL BIRD, CORNET; JOHN SANNEN,CLARINET, ALTO SAX; WILLIE WILSON, GUITAR, BANJO; PAUL PACANOWSKI, BARITONE SAX, REEDS; RIC GIORGI, BASS; JACK HUTTON, PIANO

ABOVE: REIDE KAISER

LEFT: JACK HUTTON PRESENTS BILL MCCROSTIE WITH SIGNED PICTURE OF RGJO IN APPRECIATION OF HIS DEVOTION TO RAGTIME

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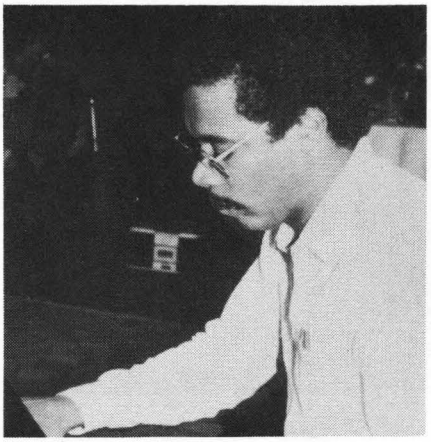
JOHN ARPIN

WAYNE ADAMS



RICHARD BERRY

DAN GRINSTEAD

GLORIA EKROM

CATHERINE WILSON

GLENN JENKS

CHARLES CASTNER

IRV KOVEN

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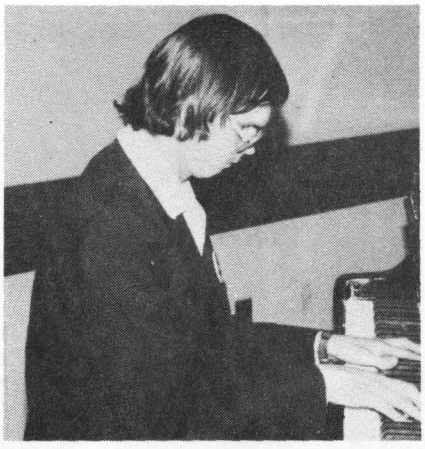
CHARLES PETOT

JACK HUTTON

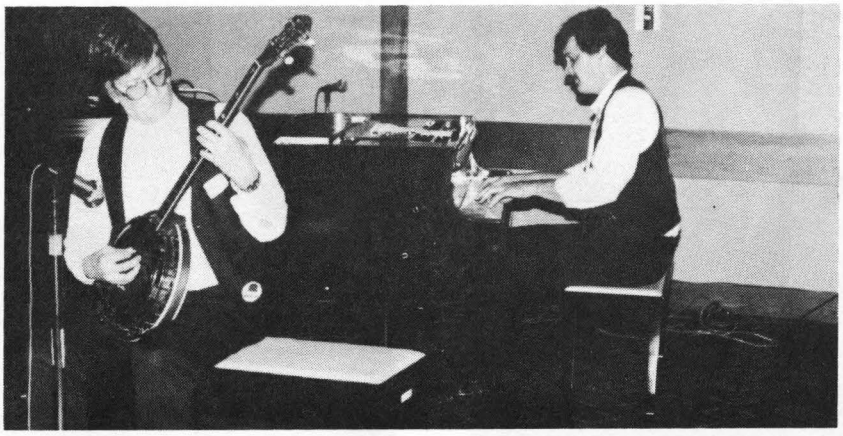
BOB KIVIAHO



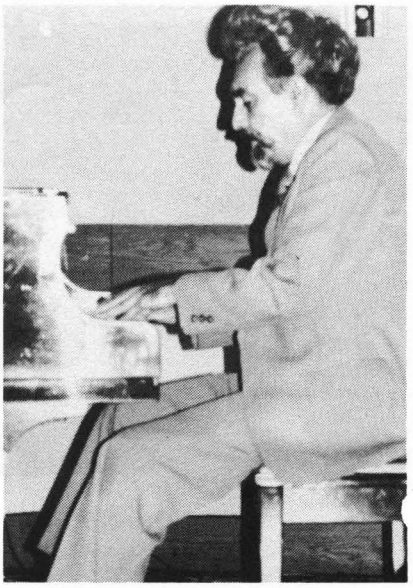
GARY TENHUNEN *

TIMOTHY SANDOR

CHARLIE DUNN



ABOVE: AL ALLOTTA (BANJO) AND PAT MacCARROLL (PIANO)
AT RIGHT: SI RICHARDS



* We regret to report that Gary Tenhunen died just before Christmas in a fire at his Sudbury home.

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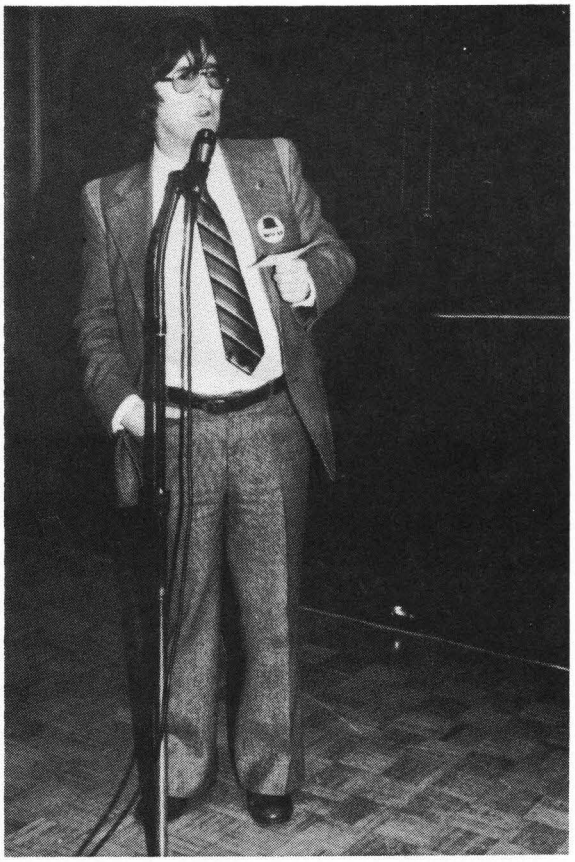
BEN CONROY

CHARLES BOOTY

DAVE FLOWITT

JEAN HULING
(with husband PAUL on washboard)



LEFT: JACK CUFF

ABOVE: MASTER OF CEREMONIES
JOHN ARPIN

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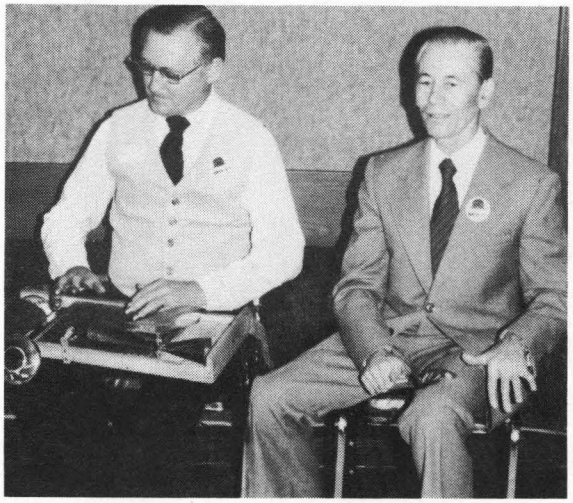
LYNNE WYNTERS

DOROTHY ROSE

BETTY MIQUELON



ABOVE: AMELIA LAMB AND JOHN ARPIN

MIDDLE RIGHT: PAUL HULING (WASHBOARD) AND GEORGE YOUNG (SPOONS)

RIGHT: SID MARTIN (BANJO-UKE) AND JOHN FLOYD (PIANO)

RAGTIME RUMBLES

BY BILL McCROSTIE
Vice-President
and Managing Director

Bash '83 was a dandy .. on to Bash '84: OCTOBER 19, 20, 21, 1984. Circle those dates on your 1984 calendar right now!

So good to see so many old friends ... to make a lot of new ones. And then there were the ones who weren't there. (The Editor would not let me print the whole lot, but we missed YOU)

A tip of the Ragtime Hat to JOAN PACKER for the great pictures taken at the Bash. You see the results of Joan's photography in this issue.

And, again, a big thanks to KEN HAWKINS and YAMAHA for those terrific Yamaha grands.

Each Saturday and Sunday afternoon from 3:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. at Natchez, 2335 Yonge Street, Toronto area jazz buffs can listen and enjoy the great music of the EXCELSIOR JAZZ BAND: JOHN CHARLES, clarinet and leader; PAT KELLY, trumpet; HARVEY SEEGEL, trombone; STEVE TATTERSAL, drums; SID CALVERT, banjo; BRIAN QUEBEC, bass; and Ragtime Society member JOHN FLOYD, piano. Drop in and give a listen.

Sunday, Nov. 20 -- A sell-out crowd of over 500 were treated to a great evening of music at the ARPIN-WILSON concert. The program went from Joplin to Chopin, from Blake to Bach with Arlen, Gershwin, Porter and Kern, not to forget Arpin. It held the audience spellbound.

The many friends of our past president, IDAMAY MACINNES, will be sorry to hear that she has been hospitalized. She is back home at 398 Eglinton Avenue East, Toronto, for those who might want to get in touch.

YOUR DIRECTORS WISH YOU WELL! (left to right) Marj Wittmann, John Fairhead, John Arpin, Mark Wittmann, Betty Miquelon, Pell Bell-Smith, Bill McCrostie, Zell Connell McCrostie, Jack Hutton

RECORD REVIEW

by
TEX
WYNDHAM

Folkways FS 3165 "Ragtime: Tickled Pink", piano solos by George Hicks

Selections: Tickled Pink, Sweet And Tender, Jim Jams, Pianoflage, That Futuristic Rag, Bluin' The Black Keys, My Pet, The Lion Tamer Rag, The Baltimore Todolo, Town Talk, Personality, Virginia Creeper.

Available @ $9.98 from Folkways Records, 43 West 61st Street, New York City, New York 10023.

With this forceful, rhythmic assortment of seldom-heard, tough-to-play rags, mostly novelties from the 1920's, yet another Bash alumnus progresses to the status of recording artist. High time, too, as those of us will attest who sat in the Cara Inn a few years ago, mixing awe with enjoyment, as George Hicks turned in impeccable rides on the likes of Zez Confrey's knuckle-cruncher "My Pet". He's still at it, striding effortlessly through Bargy's hot, powerful "Jim Jams", "Pianoflage" and "Sweet And Tender", through Bloom's inventive and unusual "That Futuristic Rag", through Mayerl's swinging "Virginia Creeper" and through (not quite so effortlessly) the first recording ever of Schutt's fiendishly taxing "Bluin' The Black Keys". Novelty buffs will jump for joy, everyone else will savour the variety introduced by Eubie's jazzy "The Baltimore Todolo" and Janza's jingling "The Lion Tamer's Rag" and we all therefore will march down to the record store to grab this one.

Stomp Off S.O.S. 1037 "A'Solas", piano solos by Butch Thompson

Selections: Stomp De Low Down, Workingman Blues, Ecuadorian Memories, Mr. Jelly Lord, Maple Leaf Stomp, How Long Blues, Tia Juana, My Home Is In A Southern Town, A'Solas, Of All The Wrongs You've Done To Me, Froggie Moore, Kiss Me Sweet, Mamie's Blues, Creepy Feeling.

Available @$8.98 postpaid (plus $2.00 overseas) from Stomp Off Records, P.O. Box 342, Dept. L, York, Pennsylvania 17405.

If you like Jelly Roll Morton's piano playing (who doesn't?), you'll love this LP of solos by a contemporary tickler who has not only thoroughly absorbed Morton's keyboard acrobatics (left-hand octave runs, right hand trills and smears, part-chord stride, etc.), but also has gained the much more difficult plateau of mastering Morton's way of thinking (of contrasing busy passages with airy ones, of keeping the listener off balance with breaks or shifting rhythms, of re-using ideas in different form to maintain internal cohesion during a performance) to the point where Thompson can all but bring Jelly back to life at the 88. Thompson's technique is accurate, light and assured; his sense of rhythm is rock-steady; and his mood, mostly, is relaxed and comfortable, many cuts proceeding to a moderate-to-slow pace that gives Thompson time to think things through. A few flashy flagwavers (e.g., a powerful

Mortonesque reading of Joplin's "Maple Leaf Rag" called "Maple Leaf Stomp", a red-hot and distinctive interpretation of Morton's "Froggie Moore") act as appropriate foils for the spacious simplicity of the slow "How Long Blues" and "Mamie's Blues" or the melodic Spanish-tinged "A'Solas" and "Creepy Feeling", making a program that's at once satisfying and easy to take. Personally I prefer Thompson when he appears as himself rather than someone else, even when that someone is the great Jelly Roll, but my preferences won't keep me from relishing and recommending this 100% successful voyage to Mortonia.

Folkways RBF 49 "Ragtime Piano Revival", piano solos, usually with rhythm accompaniment, compiled and annotated by David A. Jasen

Selections and Artists: Harlem Rag - Wally Rose; Frog Legs Rag - Ralph Sutton; Greenwich Witch - Russ Morgan & Eddie Wilbur; Raggedy-Ann - Lincoln Mayorga; The Crazy Otto - Billy Rowland; Maple Leaf Rag - Marvin Ash; Canadian Capers - Ray Turner; Oriental Blues - Tony DiSimone; Tin Pan Rag - Joe "Fingers" Carr; Oh! Willie Play That Thing - Bill Krenz; The Old Professor - Dick Hyman; Solid Ivory - Jess Sutton; Coronation Rag - Winifred Atwell; Harpsichord Rag - Buddy Weed; Lightning Fingers - Ben Light; Brandon Bounce - Neville Dickie

Available @ $9.98 from Folkways Records, 43 West 61st Street, New York City, New York 10023.

By the time you've become a Ragtimer subscriber, you've gone well past the point where you found anything worth listening to in the sleeve-gartery, top-speed, pseudo-cheerful, accurate-but-shallow, off-pitch pianistics that introduced you to rag, particularly if you started in the '50's when, it seemed, not much else was being waxed that claimed to be ragtime. You hoped all that junk languished in the oblivion it deserved, yet here it is again, regurgitated for the edication of musical scholars, historians and masochists, on RBJ 49, a compilation of material that first saw daylight on 45 rpm recordings. Ralph Sutton, Marvin Ash and Jess Sutton, in worthy performances, do their excellent best to divert us from the noisy roistering on the other cuts, but most of what is presented here is the kind of racehorse keyboard flailing that gives ragtime a band name and causes people to dismiss the genre out of hand. This stuff was largely garbage when it was first waxed, and a quarter-century of sitting around hasn't improved its aroma.

Ragtime Society members will have a chance to hear Max Morath's entertaining and unique form of ragtime in Toronto's new Roy Thomson Hall on Sunday afternoon, April 8,1984. Because tickets are selling rapidly, the Society has reserved a block of 100 which are still available at $13.50 each. If you are interested, call Betty Miquelon at 425-0227 or Zell McCrostie at 924-1835 (both numbers 416 area code). WE ARE TRYING TO ARRANGE A POST-PERFORMANCE RECEPTION WHERE YOU CAN MEET MAX. WATCH FOR DETAILS IN A FUTURE RAGTIMER.

RUSSIAN RAG.

Interpolating the world famous "PRELUDE" by Rachmaninoff.

By GEORGE L. COBB.

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Russian Rag

by

GEORGE. L. COBB.

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"PRELUDE" BY RACHMANINOFF.

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